



California Conservation Corps Watershed Stewards Program in partnership with AmeriCorps

Member Position Description



WSP Members:

All WSP Member positions are both California Conservation Corps AND AmeriCorps positions. A Term of Service with WSP is 10.5 months, usually from the beginning of October to mid-August. All Members are required to work 40+ hours per week and on weekends as needed to reach the required 1700 Hours.

Description of Duties and Areas of Responsibility:

WSP Members serve under the guidance of a Placement Site organization to assess, monitor, and enhance watersheds. WSP Members do not supervise other employees or Members. While each Placement Site's overall strategy, effort, and timing of service activities varies, all Members will participate in the following types of service:

Watershed Recovery and Protection (72% of Members' time)

Members work cooperatively with natural resource agencies, landowners, land managers, and community-based organizations, surveying streams and watersheds using State and Federal protocols. Members assist in the coordination and implementation of projects including, but not limited to: invasive species removal; rebuilding, restoring and expanding riparian buffers; spawning surveys; native species seed collection, propagation, and planting; installing large woody debris; conducting in-stream habitat surveys; removing/improving fish passage barriers; monitoring culverts; water quality and water quantity monitoring; bank stabilization and sediment reduction; installing and maintaining water catchment systems and rain water gardens; and monitoring and maintenance of restoration projects.

Members also spend time analyzing data to help generate reports and specific prescriptions for management of those streams and watersheds. These projects include, but are not limited to: restoration project development and design; data entry and analysis; landowner access agreements; GIS mapping; quantitative watershed research; and technical writing.

Education and Outreach (13% of Members' time)

Members serve in local Title I schools to educate the next generation by instructing K-8 students in watershed and salmonid science utilizing the Wonders of Watershed (WOW!) curriculum. The WOW! curriculum consists of six one-hour lessons pertaining to: watersheds, the water cycle, salmonids, stream health, habitat, and water conservation and stewardship. All Members teach the curriculum in at least one classroom, to at least 25 students.

Members also engage the community in outreach throughout their service term by providing outreach presentations and educational opportunities to students and community members, including: episodic classroom visits, environmental education fairs, field trips, community service projects, and presentations to community members, natural resource professionals, and students relating to conserving, restoring, and sustaining local watersheds. All Members participate in one Outreach Event organized by WSP during their service term.

The Watershed Stewards Program's (WSP) mission is to conserve, restore, and enhance anadromous watersheds for future generations by linking education with high quality scientific practices.

WSP is administered by CaliforniaVolunteers and sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.



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Volunteer Recruitment (10% of Members' time)

Each Member completes one Watershed Awareness Project (WAP) in which they recruit, train, and manage 30 volunteers in a hands-on watershed restoration project. Coordinating these events helps WSP Members develop professionally and connect communities through the development of partnerships between people, groups and organizations, and their role in the local environment.

Member Training and Professional Development (5% of Members' time)

Members participate in all mandatory WSP trainings and meetings; including a week-long orientation, a three-day regional training, WSP Member Retreat, and the WSP Member Recognition Ceremony. Training topics include, but are not limited to: Wilderness First Aid/CPR; swift-water safety; civic engagement; career and professional development; teaching skills; watershed surveying and sampling methodologies; data analyses; and fundamentals of watershed restoration, and program policies. Members also participate in regular training at their Placement Site.

Qualifications for Applicants:

- 21+
- High school diploma
- 25 credits of college-level science OR 6 months of relevant experience in fisheries/habitat restoration, invasive removal, instream structure installation, etc.
- Interest and experience in natural resources management and environmental education
- Possess or be willing to obtain a California Driver's License
- Clean driving record (no more than 2 points)
- US Citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident Alien

Preferred Skills and Qualities for Members:

- Willingness and desire to learn
- Effective communication skills
- Flexibility
- Good basis of relative skills and experiences
- Willingness to relocate to Placement Site community

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